

# Iran Still Is Country Known as Persia

By JOSEPH MAZANDI  
United Press International  
Tehran—Iran, despite a determined effort by its former shah to make this name universal, is still stubbornly known as Persia in many places and to many peoples in the world.

This may be due to the fact that although the late shah — father of the present ruler — wanted his country to be known as "The Land of the Aryans," which is what Iran means, the word Persian was too deeply ingrained in history.

Persians cats and rugs are known the world over. There is the Persian Gulf. The language was always Persian, never Iranian. And it was difficult to erase by fiat in 1927 a term which was already familiar to the chroniclers of the Bible who speak of "The Land of the Persians."

By whatever name, Persia and Iran are one and the same nation. It is a large tableland from 3,000 to 6,000 feet high in western Asia with an area of 628,000 square miles, more than one-fifth the size of the United States and about two and a half times that of Texas.

**Take Pride in History**  
Iranians (or Persians) pride themselves on a history and culture which extends back more than 6,000 years.

Their most famous kings, Darius and Cyrus, held sway over half the known world some 2,500 years ago and since that time the country has remained a political entity despite the cataclysmic invasions of Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan, the Mongol.

Iran is bordered on the west and northwest by Iraq and Turkey, on the east by Paki-

stan and Afghanistan. To the south is the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. And to the north the Caspian Sea and Russia with whom Iran shares a border 1,250 miles long.

To help Iran maintain its independence the United States has given this country during the past decade about \$1 billion in military and economic aid. This aid has gone toward modernizing the 200,000 man army and the implementation of projects designed to raise the living standards of the people.

**75 Per Cent Illiterate**  
Shah Mohammed Reza, 43, has also taken steps to strengthen the nation internally with measures intended to end feudalism and to give a majority of the people a greater voice in their own affairs.

More than 75 per cent of

the 22,000,000 population are engaged in agriculture and are generally illiterate. Side by side with ancient means of irrigation are the great dams — one of the most recently completed is fifth in size in the world and the highest in the Middle East.

The dams will help modernize agriculture. To stamp out illiteracy the Shah has formed corps of young men who undertake to bring education to everyone, even in the most remote villages.

Although the majority do not enjoy a high standard of living, Iranians are famous for their hospitality. It would be considered unforgivable for anyone, down to the poorest laborer, not to insist that a visitor partake of food at meal time.

An ordinary laborer earns

less than \$12.50 a week on the average. He must work two hours to earn a pound of mutton, three days for a pair of shoes and more than two weeks for a decent suit of clothing. The average worker lives with his family of four or five in not more than two rooms for which he pays a monthly rental of about \$10 to \$15.

**Rich Compared to U.S.**  
Rich Iranians, on the other hand, have some of the most beautiful and modern homes in the world and live in luxury that might be the envy of multimillionaires in Europe and the United States.

Although it is a Moslem country Iran is not an Arab country. Urban Iranians live a Western life, wear Western clothes — a suit, a felt hat and a tie — and look very

much at first glance like the people on the street of an American city. There are tribes, however, which still wear their own costumes and no one wants them to change these colorful robes — least of all those in charge of trying to persuade mere tourists to come here.

While Persian is the principal language of the country there are hundreds of tribal dialects and large groups of permanent settlers speak Arabic, Turkish, Armenian, Kurdish, Assyrian, Pushtu, Urdu, Russian and so on. The vast majority of the people belong to the Moslem Shia sect. There are also 100,000 Armenian Christians, thousands of Assyrians and other Christians and 40,000 Jews.

**Many Projects Under Way**  
Despite the oil income and

the grants from the United States, Iran has so many development projects under way that it is always searching for new income. Tourism seems to be a promising source. An American-operated luxury hotel was opened in Tehran by the shah this year and most of the 2,000,000 people in the capital have come for a look at it. Other hotels are mushrooming all over the country.

Roads are being improved and travel regulations simplified.

The legislature is bicameral as in the United States. The lower house of Majlis consists of 200 elected members. There is an upper house or senate of 60 members, half of them elected half appointed by the shah who has the right to dissolve either or both houses of the legislature.

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**★ IRAN ★**

AREA: 628,000 sq. miles  
POPULATION: 18,944,821  
CROPS: wheat, barley, rice...  
RESOURCES: oil, iron ore, zinc...

**OIL OUTPUT:**  
1,051,000 barrels per day (est.)

(PERSIA)

**SEARCH FOR NEW INCOME** — Iran's national income from its oil is more than \$300 million a year, and she has received about \$1.3 billion in aid from the United States, but the country still is searching for new income from, among other things, tourism. Iran offers ancient ruins, big game, trout and salmon fishing, and skiing, as well as a fine cuisine. (UPI)

## New Officers Are Installed by Local Office Managers

New officers were installed and merit awards presented at the 12th anniversary dinner of the Medford chapter of the National Office Management association recently at the Brave Bull.

Wilson G. Slater, clerk of Medford school district 549C, was installed as president of the association.

Other officers assuming positions were: Charles L. Goodwin, Medford Veneer and Plywood Corp., vice president; Mrs. Norma E. Burroughs, Mark's Groceteria, secretary; Mrs. Virginia G. Johnson, Rogue Valley Physicians service, assistant secretary, and E. C. Evanson, Timber Products company, treasurer. Leo E. Sohler, Ashland, past president of the chapter, was installing officer.

Directors chosen for two-year terms were: Ronald E. Cordon, manager of the East Medford branch. The Oregon Bank; Dennis E. Gareon, IBM representative; V. W. (Vic) Kengla, Timber Products company; and Walt Stockburger, Carolina Pacific Plywood, Inc. Claude E. Hall, National Cash Register company, will serve his one-year unexpired term as director.

**Award Keys Presented**  
Merit award keys for 100 points service were presented to Frank G. Martin, Olson-Lawyer Lumber company, and Mrs. Burroughs.

Mrs. Gilbert Johnson (Frances E.) of Associated Fruit company, was awarded the Diamond Merit award for "long and diligent work" for NOMA through chapter and national activities.

Presentation was to be made at the International conference in Pittsburgh June 2, but due to the fact that Mrs. Johnson would be unable to attend the session in Pennsylvania, the award key was sent to Kenneth E. Pickens, chairman of the Medford Merit Award Point system, presentation. The scroll will be presented to Mrs. Johnson, one of few people to earn the



**WILSON SLATER**  
Named New President

key and scroll, at the Area 13 conference to be held at the Multnomah hotel, Portland, June 21 and 22.

Mrs. Johnson received the first merit award key in 1955 and the Diamond award key in 1963. These keys are presented in accordance with the Merit Award Point system, officially adopted and established to acknowledge "worthy effort" in promulgating and instituting management in the office.

Daniel J. Huebner, president, Cascade Business Systems, was introduced as a new member.

## 300 Executives Are Expected at Session

**Gearhart** — About 300 industry executives are expected for the 27th annual meeting of the Douglas Fir Plywood association, scheduled to get under way at Gearhart June 10.

About 130 mills in the five western states are members of the association, which conducts joint promotional programs, research and quality control on an industry-wide basis.

A study of changes in grades of sheathing, the industry's bread and butter product, and reports on the possibilities of overseas markets head the 3-day agenda.

DFFA Executive Vice President James R. Turnbull, now taking part in a U.S. Department of Commerce trade mission in Europe, will fly back from Copenhagen for the meeting, returning to rejoin the mission June 12.

The association will elect new officers and announce the election of a new board of trustees.

**THEFT TOO MUCH**  
Birmingham, England—Officer Yvonne Thomas, 18, killed herself by turning on the gas stove because a boy stole her transistor radio, a coroner's inquest was told Thursday.

## Sawyer Attends Portland Meeting

Portland—Recommendations stemming from a recently completed three-day conference on the alcoholic and the Court are already being put into actuality, according to George Dimas, director of the Alcohol Studies and Rehabilitation section of the sponsoring Mental Health division of Oregon.

Among the 80 representatives of Oregon and Washington courts and federal and state mental health agencies was District Court Judge Laren L. Sawyer, Medford.

The group recommended that further regional conferences be held to study the problems, Dimas said. The group also recommended that the possibility of regional rehabilitation farms to serve several communities be studied and that such centers be staffed adequately to care for the repeater alcoholic.

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